

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5-7 and 15-17 contain allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8-11, and 18-20 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly and indirectly, from claims 1 and 11.

Objections to Claims

Claims 5-7 and 15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5 and 15 have been rewritten in this response in independent format, embodying all limitations of the base claims from which they depend.

These amendments to claims 5 and 15 include the amendments made by way of this response to claims 1 and 11, from which claims 5 and 15 depend. In particular, the claims were amended to clarify that the transmission of packet data occurs over a network. The dependent claims were also amended to specify that the printer is a “network printer” in order to provide proper antecedent basis in view of the amendments to the independent claims.

Support for the amendments may be found at least in original claim 10, as well as page 6, paragraph 1, of the original specification as filed. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Claims 5 and 15, as amended, are believed to be allowable. Claims 6-7 and 16-17, which depend therefrom, are similarly allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-4, 8-14, and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,538,764, issued to Ueda. Independent claims 1, 8-11, and 18-20 have been amended in this reply to clarify that the packet data is transmitted through a network. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments and support for the amendments may be found at least in original claim 10, as well as page 6, paragraph 1, of the original specification as filed. To the extent this rejection may apply to the amended claims, it is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 8-11, and 18-20, as amended, recite that a network transmits packet data on the basis of which print job data is extracted. These claims are directed to various embodiments of a network printer, task control methods, and program products.

In contrast, Ueda discloses a printer that is connected to a host computer through a bidirectional data communication line. A printer according to Ueda will

therefore not receive packet data, nor extract print job data from a packet, as required by the instant claims. Ueda completely fails to suggest or disclose packets or packet data.

Further, in Ueda, received data is converted into intermediate codes on a band basis. This is not equivalent to extracting print job data from packet data, as required by the claims. Moreover, the intermediate codes are different from the print job data extracted from the packet data of the present invention.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1, 8-11, and 18-20 are patentable over Ueda. Dependent claims 2-4 and 12-14 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783.008001).

Respectfully submitted,

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